

BOLSHEVIKISTART COUNTER DRIVE BY RE TAKING GRODNO

Moscow Wireless Reports Much Ground Gained in Resumption of Offensive and That Forces of Gen. Wrangel Have Been Put to Rout.

(By Universal Service.)

London, Aug. 29.—The Russian army has recaptured Grodno and the Poles have been forced to evacuate Bialystok because of pressure on their flanks, according to a Central News dispatch from Koenigsberg.

The Russian wireless from Moscow reports that the Bolshevik offensive has been resumed and that ground was gained at Bialystok, Brest-Litovsk and elsewhere. It adds that an offensive against Gen. Wrangel is in progress and that his forces are retreating.

Polish Reversal Severe.

Berlin, Aug. 29.—An unconfirmed telegram from Koenigsberg says the Poles suffered a reverse near Mlava.

The victories of the Polish armies, it is alleged, are being followed by a strong anti-Semitic feeling in Poland that in many instances has manifested itself in pogroms.

Russ Resistance Strong.

The Russian resistance in the area west of Brest-Litovsk was strong today, a dispatch from Warsaw declared. The Bolsheviks have also stiffened their lines east and north of Grodno, apparently working from a northern base at Vilna.

Prince Sapieha, the Polish foreign minister, is at Brest-Litovsk for a conference with M. Donski, head of the Polish delegation at Minsk. They will determine the place to which the peace parleys will be transferred, and the prince will fully acquaint the head of the delegation with the present stand of the government on peace terms.

Communication Inadequate.

Since the parleys started at Minsk the communication of the delegation with Warsaw has been very inadequate. No couriers have been able to get through the lines, and the wireless messages were infrequent and garbled.

Oil Wells Gushing In New Mule Creek Fields of Wyoming

In the world-wide struggle for oil discovery, a new field in Eastern Wyoming 100 miles east of Salt Creek and four miles from the South Dakota line, is announced by the United States Geological Survey. It is known as the Mule Creek field. The Geological Survey says:

"The presence of petroleum in this region had long been suspected, and considerable drilling had been done. Geologists have drilled a test well that proved to be the discovery well of the field. The production of this first well was small compared with wells in the nearby Lance Creek field, but its success stimulated extensive drilling and ten wells on the south-eastern flank were soon each producing daily 125 to 150 barrels of oil of high grade."

Alexandria's Mayor Foils Dark Plot Of Firemen to Burn up Schoolhouse; Has to Sit Up all Night to Do It

Nero fiddled while Rome burned. And history reports he took a great delight in the procedure, but history never had anything on Mayor Thomas Fisher, of ye olde town of Alexandria, Va., who, with staunch cohorts, sat up all night waiting for a schoolhouse to burn just so that firemen could show off and prove they really knew how to quench flames.

Yes, dear reader, it all happened Friday night, just four days before the retirement of ye goode mayor in ye goode olde town. For you must know that on Wednesday Mayor Fisher is succeeded by J. M. Duncan as chief executive of that bailiwick.

Here's How It Happened.

You see, it all happened this way. The "town across the river" had a fireman's muster there last week—a regular, honest-to-goodness muster, with firemen and all, about 1,000 of them. Ye goode olde town boasts of about 30,000 souls.

And as Nero longed to see Rome burn, so did these firemen, staunch and true, wish to prove that they were real firefighters, with red shirts and all, so they decided that Friday—stormy and all—was a good time for a murder or a fire. No shacks proving available, they picked out the Gray schoolhouse in the 400 block of Alfred street.

But even as Nero knew of the impending fire in that now famous town of Rome, so did Mayor Fisher know of the impending incendiary act which was scheduled to furnish amusement for 1,000 visiting firemen in Alexandria.

Town Is Warned. The good mayor, backed by some valiant members of the police force, sallied forth late Friday night when they heard of the dark plot and made the rounds of the good town, warning all to be prepared to resist the invasion of the hordes.

The mayor then planted his honorable self on the front steps of the school building, which is two stories high and built of nice dry wood. Here he watched and waited until the hordes, but they never came. And so Mayor Fisher's grandchildren some day will be able to boast of "how granddad saved a school all by himself."

LABOR THROWS ALL ITS POWER TO DEMOCRATS

A. F. L. Committee Reports Urging Ranks to Vote For Cox.

GIVE HIM CLEAN BILL

Harding, on Other Hand Described as Approving "Vicious Legislation."

By ROBERT T. BARRY.
(Public Ledger Service.)

Organized labor yesterday cast its political influence on the side of Gov. James M. Cox. Representing its interest as solely that of the workers of America and as caring nothing for political parties, both of which were criticized, the American Federation of Labor, after an examination of the records of Republican and Democratic candidates, in effect took the field for the election of Gov. Cox.

The "nonpartisan" political campaign committee of the American Federation of Labor found the labor record of the Democratic candidate to be without a flaw. It drew attention to Senator Harding's approval of legislation described as "vicious" and "obnoxious."

It did not, in just so many words, urge the workers of the nation to vote for Cox, but it commended his record and extolled his statesmanship in glowing terms, while dealing poorly concealed thrusts at the alleged "exasperating" lack of clarity in Senator Harding's utterances. There is no mention of parties; labor's declaration is based entirely on the acts of the two candidates when confronted by questions affecting the interests of labor.

The labor committee, composed of Samuel Gompers, Matthew Woll and Frank Morrison, held there could be but one conclusion "based upon a careful and impartial survey of the actions and declarations of the candidates," and announced that conclusion to be:

All for Cox.

"Gov. Cox has shown himself possessed of a fuller understanding of the needs of the working people, a readier response to their needs and to their proposals and a broader statesmanship in his public discussions of the problems of the industrial world."

"In addition to his superior understanding, Gov. Cox is the candidate on a platform which labor has declared 'marks a measure of progress not found in the Republican platform' and the planks of which 'more nearly approximate the platform of declaration of human rights than do the planks found in the Republican platform.'"

Insist Inquiry Was Non-Partisan. The report of the American Federation committee closed with an avowal of the non-partisan nature of its inquiry into the records of the rival candidates; a disavowal of any purpose to prostitute the power of organized labor to the uses of any political party; and a declaration that while striving above all else to serve only the labor movement, "it would be a sad and unforgivable remissness of duty in this crucial hour were the facts not presented with the utmost freedom and completeness."

"With the workers of America the right of deciding for which candidate they shall vote," the report stated, but then appeared a word of caution to them to "take to heart the conclusion of the report."

AIR MAIL TO CUBA OPENS OCTOBER 15

Extension of airplane service to foreign mails was announced yesterday by the Postoffice Department following the signing of a contract between the department and a private airplane operating company for the dispatch of mail from Key West to Havana for one year beginning October 15.

The mail will be taken by seaplane from Key West immediately after the arrival of the forenoon train at Key West and will result in placing the American mail in the Havana Postoffice in time for delivery, at least in the business district, that same afternoon.

Death Silence Enfolds Lord Mayor of Cork, in Brixton Prison Hunger Strike 18 Days

By ROBERT J. PREW.
(Universal Service Staff Correspondent, Special Cable Dispatch.)

London, Aug. 29.—Lord Mayor McSweney dying by slow dragging inches of hunger, spends practically all of his time lying flat on his back.

He sleeps that way and lies that way continuously while he is awake. Part of his waking hours are spent with eyes closed.

In the earlier part of his strike, which has continued eighteen days, he tossed restlessly. His tossing has slowly diminished in vigor and duration until now he lies almost absolutely still.

His skin is now a pale ivory color. He is extremely emaciated. The skin is not drawn, but hangs loosely. Great hollows have appeared under his eyes. Contrasted with the thin, colorless face, they seem like huge dark jewels.

McSweney, a frail man with weak lungs, owes his continued existence, his doctors say, to complete mental composure. This composure, too, has kept his mind clear. Though dying, he recognizes all who come to see him, signaling that recognition by the expression in his eyes. His whispered words are coherent.

The mental composure he shows while awake carries over into his sleep. He does not dream. This is determined by frequent takings of his temperature.

Dreams would effect circulation and nervous changes which would give increased readings on the clinical thermometer.

Faith Gives Comfort.

His religious faith is his complete comfort. He has set aside all thoughts of worldly life and is permitting his life to slowly flicker out, holding to his determination not to take food with a steady grip, seemingly of iron.



TERENCE MCSWENEY.

Lord Mayor of Cork, who is hunger-striking. Sinn Feiners say that if he dies they will try Premier Lloyd George and other British officials on a charge of murder and kill them.

In his present psychology his Chevalier is first, Ireland is second. His own life is a very small thing compared to these two.

Dreams May Rack Mind.

The one fear that he may lose his mind before his death is held on account of dreams. Should he become the victim of a dream that would shock him the doctors say it would arouse a fever that might destroy his mind either wholly or in part. The mayor rests on a plain, iron prison cot, and he is dressed in a coarse nightgown. He is isolated in the infirmary of the jail.

The walls of the room are severely plain. Dr. Higson, the prison physician, is at hand constantly. Nurses are in the room constantly.

Members of the immediate family visit with him.

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Dark Lantern Diplomacy Wile Sees in U. S. Dealing With Troubles in Poland

By FREDERIC WILLIAM WILE.

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Three weeks have elapsed since the Colby note on Russia and Bolshevism was given world-wide publicity. To date the only result of it of which the American public has been apprised is the acquiescence of France in the position proclaimed by the United States. What Great Britain, Italy, Japan or even Poland think about the note and the momentary policy it enunciates remains a jealously guarded State Department secret.

Silent on Jap Reply, Too.

For more than two weeks the United States government has been in possession of a detailed reply from Japan on our protest against Japanese aggression in Saghalin Island in particular and in Siberia and the Far East generally. Japanese newspaper comment seems to have been in progress relating to the correspondence with the United States, and some of it apparently has been of acrimonious character. But Washington maintains stubborn silence on the whole affair.

Rebuffed, Says Ramon.

The taciturnity of our own authorities has given rise to the suspicion that we have met with a diplomatic rebuff at the hands of Japan and are disinclined to advertise the fact.

On August 21 the State Department addressed what it described as an "admonition" to Poland not to yield to excessive territorial temptations in consequence of its victory over the Bolshevik army. The Polish government made a prompt response to our representations. But the State Department de-

clines to publish it. Once again the suspicion has arisen that, as in the case of Japan, we have not scored an anticipated diplomatic success, and are keeping the facts dark.

French Advice Differently.

Meantime it is learned from Paris that the French authorities, whom the Poles look upon as their military saviors in the late crisis, have advised the Warsaw government to be guided by its strict military necessities, platonic "admonitions" from Washington apparently to the contrary notwithstanding.

The exact state of our relations with Mexico is still another diplomatic mystery which is insoluble in Washington. Beyond assurances at the State Department that "informal conversations" are proceeding, nothing categorical or indicative of an American policy in the new Mexican situation is obtainable.

Still Another Mystery.

Some time ago the United States lodged a protest with Great Britain and France regarding the usurpation of oil facilities in the Near East and elsewhere to the detriment and discrimination of American interests. It is to be presumed that the friendly governments of London and Paris have made some sort of response to our important, if not imperative, representations, but no information is forthcoming at the executive end of Pennsylvania avenue.

The existing state of affairs is at glaring variance with the President's once vaunted belief in "open covenants openly arrived at." The "daylight diplomacy" of which he used to be an apostle seems to have become dark lantern diplomacy.

DISTRICT LAW DRAWN TO END RENT GOUGING

New Law to Be Presented To Congress in December.

AMENDS LOCAL CODE

Limits Landlords' Profits to Percentage Made Before War.

A new rent law for the District—the product of months of hard study by well-known Washingtonians familiar with rental conditions—will be presented to Congress in December with a view to ending the present chaotic situation. It was learned yesterday.

The new law is designed to do four things in clearing up the chaotic rent situation in Washington:

1. Any person renting property, who may be ordered out by a court judgment, may apply at the time of the court's ruling for a stay of execution.

2. Court may permanently stay execution of judgment unless it is proven that possession is not wanted to secure excessive rent.

3. Provides any net profits, from rentals, more than that before the United States entered the war, after maintenance is deducted, is excessive, but in no case shall a profit of 6 per cent or less be deemed excessive.

4. Appeals for a stay of execution by either party concerned, shall be to the District Supreme Court and such an appeal to come before the court within six days.

The proposed law is really an amendment to the District code. It is planned not to take away any of the vested rights of property owners and the act will not be affected by any decision of the United States Supreme Court this fall with regard to the Ball rent act, say its designers.

Assures Square Deal for All.

Quick action on eviction proceedings—the "landlords' remedy"—will be a thing of the past and tenants and landlords will have equal protection under the new law, it is claimed.

Those who favor the new plan contend that while landlords would be denied their present expensive ejectment remedy, no well-meaning landlord will experience any injustice.

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STRIKE TIES UP NEW YORK CARS

8,000 Rapid Transit Employees Demand Wage Be Nearly Doubled.

New York, Aug. 29.—Not a wheel of a surface car, a subway, or elevated train of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit turned after 6:30 o'clock to-night in the worst street railway tie-up in the history of Brooklyn as a result of a strike early this morning of 8,000 employees.

After running several "short car" trains with the aid of strike-breakers, the aid of strike-breakers, the city's transportation system was paralyzed. The city's transportation system was paralyzed.

Demands of the men include nearly 100 per cent increase in wages, better working conditions, and a strictly closed shop.

MOB HANGS ALLEGED SLAYER TAKEN IN JAIL

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 28.—Tom Owens, alleged slayer of Homer Nida, taxicab driver, was taken from a jail here last night by a mob of 200 citizens. He was found dead, hanging to a billboard on the State highway, three miles west of here, shortly after midnight. The body was found by police who had pursued the mob.

More than thirty shots were fired when the mob stormed the jail.

IRISH RIOTS GROW AS HUNGER STRIKE BECOMES TRAGEDY

Eleven More Die in Belfast Fighting—Britain Will Not Release Lord Mayor of Cork, Who Is Dying in Brixton Prison After Eighteen Days of Fasting.

(By Universal Service.)

London, Aug. 29.—"There has been no change in the premier's decision and there will be none," was the answer of the premier's office this afternoon when asked whether Lloyd George had ordered the release of Lord Mayor McSweney.

(Special Cable to Washington Herald.)

London, Aug. 29.—Eleven more persons were killed in Belfast today as the rioting, which has continued almost constantly since the killing of Inspector Swanzy at Lisburn last Sunday, became more vicious in spots. Tanks and machine guns are patrolling the streets and mobs are kept on the hunt for safety before or following their outbreaks.

Terence McSweney, lord mayor of Cork, is believed to have entered the valley of the shadow of death.

Fasts Seventeen Days.

Brixton jail, where the lord mayor is a prisoner, is surrounded by praying throngs—his sympathizers. Sixteen other prisoners are fasting, two of whom are in a critical condition.

McSweney was barely able to lift his eyes today at his eighteenth day of fasting. He refused to accept nourishment from the British.

He collapsed late this afternoon, and was revived with difficulty.

Sister Seen End Near. Mary McSweney, sister of the imprisoned official, visited his bedside this afternoon.

"My brother's condition is most grave. He is sinking fast," she said later. "He may die now at any moment."

Paris, Aug. 29.—Characterizing the refusal of Premier Lloyd George to release Lord Mayor McSweney a "cold-blooded murder," La Libre Parole, the Paris literary daily, today heads the popular outburst of indignation that is literally sweeping France, subscribed to not only by the editors, but by the members of the Chamber of Deputies, play-wrights and other prominent persons who ordinarily are friendly to England.

Roads Strown With Dead. Five youths were killed outright in the rioting today and more than fifty persons were dangerously wounded. When the military declared order restored the road was strewn with the bodies of the dead and dying and the pavements red-stained with their blood.

The Orangemen assert that the Sinn Feiners started the battle by emerging in heavy force from the Sinn Fein marrow bone district and penetrating the Unionist stronghold—Ewart's Row. Furniture was dragged from houses, piled in the streets and burned.

IRISH 'PICKETS' URGE
BOYCOTT OF BRITISH
(By Universal Service.)

Upon the death of Lord Mayor Terence McSweney, of Cork, Mrs. Gertrude Corless, leader of the Irish-American women pickets, announced yesterday the pickets will attempt to organize 25,000,000 people in their boycott of British goods in the United States.

A circular has been spread broadcast showing "Nine things you do when you trade with England."

"You give preference to the greatest militaristic nation of the world, and you support a nation whose aggressive foreign policy has hurt America in every country of the world," it says among other things.

"The test just completed," said Joseph Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, "was made on a cable laid from the Ambrose Channel Lightship to the Narrows—a distance of sixteen miles—by the navy tug Algoma."

Previous attempts to apply this system were not wholly satisfactory owing to the fact that the cable was injured from time to time by anchors of small vessels dragging over it. The new cable is armored and gives every indication of proving entirely satisfactory.

Electric Piloting Perfected by Navy. Electric submarine piloting of vessels has been perfected, according to an announcement yesterday by the Navy Department. Experiments conducted by a naval tug in New York harbor have demonstrated that, regardless of the character of the weather, ships may be guided safely into port through the new invention and have eradicated many imperfections that at first existed.

Flappers— And you who don't think yourself flappers— You will feel less guilty if you wash your face before reading Dorothy Dix's plea for facial honesty and unpowdered character, on page six of Today's Herald

ONE DOLLAR'S WORTH

THE Judge of the United States court of the district lying along the Rio Grande border found the following letter one morning in his mail:

Judge: When you sent me up for four years you made a talk. Among other hard things you called me a rattlesnake. Maybe I am one—

anyhow, you hear me rattling now. One year after I got to the pen, my daughter died of—well, they said it was poverty and the disgrace together. You've got a daughter, Judge, and I'm going to make you know how it feels to lose one. And I'm going to bite that district attorney that spoke

against me. I'm free now, and I guess I've turned to rattlesnake all right. I feel like one. I don't say much, but this is my rattie. Look out when I strike.

Yours respectfully,

RATTLESLAKE.

Judge Derwent threw the letter carelessly aside. It was nothing new to receive such epistles from desperate men whom he had been called upon to judge. He felt no alarm. Later on he showed the letter to Littlefield, the young district attorney, for Littlefield's name was included in the threat, and the judge was punctilious in matters between himself and his fellow-men.

Littlefield honored the rattle of the writer, as far as it concerned himself, with a smile of contempt; but he frowned a little over the reference to the Judge's daughter, for he and Nancy Derwent were to be married in the fall.

Littlefield went to the clerk of the court and looked over the records with him. They decided that the letter might have been sent by Mexico Sam, a half-breed border desperado who had been imprisoned for manslaughter four years before. Then official duties crowded the matter from his mind and the rattle of the revengeful serpent was forgotten.

Court was in session at Browns-

ville. Most of the cases to be tried were charges of smuggling, counterfeiting, postoffice robberies, and violations of Federal laws along the border. One case was that of a young Mexican, Rafael Ortiz, who had been rounded up by a clever deputy marshal in the act of passing a counterfeit silver dollar. He had been suspected of many such deviations from rectitude, but this was the first time that anything provable had been fixed upon him. Ortiz languished cozily in jail, smoking brown cigarettes and waiting for trial. Kilpatrick, the deputy, brought the counterfeit dollar and handed it to the district attorney in his office in the court-house. The deputy, easing up his holsters, prepared to swear that Ortiz paid for a bottle of medicine with it. The coin was a poor counterfeit, soft, dull-looking, and made principally of lead. It was the day before the morning on which the docket would reach the case of Ortiz, and the district attorney was preparing himself for trial.

"Not much need of having in high-priced experts to prove the coin's queer, is there, Kil?" smiled Littlefield, as he thumped the dollar down upon the table, where it fell with no more ring than would have come from a lump of putty.

"I guess the Greaser's as good as behind the bars," said the deputy, easing up his holsters. "You've got him dead. If it had been just one time, these Mexicans can't tell good money from bad; but this little yaller rascal belongs to a gang of counterfeiters, I know. This is the first time I've been able to catch him doing the trick. He's got a girl down there in them Mexican jacals on the river bank. I seen her one day when I was watching him. She's as pretty as a red heifer in a flower bed."

Littlefield shoved the counterfeit dollar into his pocket, and slipped his memoranda of the case into an envelope. Just then a

bright, winsome face, as frank and jolly as a boy's, appeared in the doorway, and in walked Nancy Derwent.

"Oh, Bob, didn't court adjourn at twelve today until tomorrow?" she asked of Littlefield.

"It did," said the district attorney, "and I'm very glad of it. I've got a lot of rulings to look up, and—"

"Now, that's just like you. I wonder you and father don't turn to law books or rulings or something! I want you to take me out plover-shooting this afternoon. Long Prairie is just alive with them. Don't say no, please! I want to try my new twelve-bore

hammerless. I've sent to the lively stable to engage Fly and Boss for the buckboard; they stand fire so nicely. I was sure you would go."

"They were to be married in the fall. The glamor was at its height. The plovers won the day—or, rather, the afternoon—over the calf-bound authorities. Littlefield began to put his papers away."

There was a knock at the door. Kilpatrick answered it. A beautiful, dark-eyed girl with a skin tinged with the faintest lemon color, walked into the room. A black shawl was thrown over her

By O. HENRY

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